from a database.

Figure 3 shows exemplary Tables 6 - 12.

Figure 4 shows exemplary Tables 13 - 16.

Figure 5 shows exemplary Tables 17, 18, and 20 - 23.

Figure 6 shows exemplary Tables 24 - 29.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 26, and ending on page 6, line 32, with the following amended paragraph:

B2 The present invention will now be described by way of examples, reference being made to ~~the tables of Appendix A and to Figs 1-2~~ Figs 1-6 of the drawings, Fig. 1 showing the content of a database after identification of relevant data tables according to the inventive method, ~~and~~ Fig. 2 showing a sequence of steps of an embodiment of the method according to the invention, and Figs. 3 - 6 showing exemplary data tables.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 1, and ending on page 8, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

B3 Tables 6 - 12 of ~~Appendix A~~ Fig. 3 show the binary codes assigned to different data values of some data variables that are included in the database of Fig. 1.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 35, and ending on page 10, line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

B4 Thereafter, a conversion structure is built (step 106), as shown in Tables 13 and 14 of Fig. 4. This conversion structure is used for translating each value of each connecting variable ("Date", "Product") in the starting table (Table 2) into a value of a corresponding selected variable ("Year", "Price") in the boundary tables (Table 3 and 1, respectively). Table 13 is built by successively reading data records of Table 3 and creating a link between each unique value of the connecting variable ("Date") and a corresponding value of the selected

variable ("Year"). It can be noted that there is no link from value 4 ("Date:1999-01-12"), since this value is not included in the boundary table. Similarly, Table 14 is built by successively reading data records of Table 1 and creating a link between each unique value of the connecting variable ("Product") and a corresponding value of the selected variable ("Price"). In this case, value 2 ("Product: Toothpaste") is linked to two values of the selected variable ("Price: 6.5"), since this connection occurs twice in the boundary table. Thus, frequency data is included in the conversion structure. Also note that there is no link from value 3 ("Product: Shampoo").

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 21, and ending on page 16, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

When the intermediate data structure has been built, a final data structure, i. e. a multidimensional cube, as shown in non-binary notation in Table 17 of Fig. 5, is created by evaluating the mathematical function ("SUM (x*y)") based on the results of the mathematical expression ("x*y") contained in the intermediate data structure (step 111). In doing so, the results in the aggregation fields for each unique combination of values of the classification variables are combined. In the illustrated case, the creation of the final data structure is straightforward, due to the trivial nature of the present mathematical function. The content of the final data structure might then (step 112) be presented to the user in a two-dimensional table, as shown in Table 18 of Fig. 5. Alternatively, if the final data structure contains many dimensions, the data can be presented in a pivot table, in which the user interactively can move up and down in dimensions, as is well known in the art.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 3, and ending on page 16, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

Below, a second example of the inventive method is described with reference to Tables 20-29 of Figs. 5 - 6. The description will only elaborate on certain aspects of this example, namely building a conversion structure including data from connecting tables, and

building an intermediate data structure for a more complicated mathematical function. In this example, the user wants to extract sales data per client from a database, which contains the data tables shown in Tables 20-23 of Fig. 5. For ease of interpretation, the binary coding is omitted in this example.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 36, and ending on page 17, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

Next, the formation of the conversion structure will be described with reference to Tables 24-26 of Fig. 6. A first part (Table 24) of the conversion structure is built by successively reading data records of a first boundary table (Table 23) and creating a link between each unique value of the connecting variable ("Product group"") and a corresponding value of the selected variable ("Environment index"). Similarly, a second part (Table 25) of the conversion structure is built by successively reading data records of a second boundary table (Table 22) and creating a link between each unique value of the connecting variable ("Price group") and a corresponding value of the selected variable ("Price"). Then, data records of the connecting table (Table 21) ~~is~~ are read successively. Each value of the connecting variables ("Product group" and "Price group", respectively) in Tables 24 and 25 is substituted for a corresponding value of a connecting variable ("Product") in Table 21. The result is merged in one final conversion structure, as shown in Table 26.

Please delete the contents of pages 21 - 24, the tables on these four pages being moved herein to new Figures 3 - 6, respectively, the new Figures 3 - 6 being attached hereto as separate pages.

Please add a new Abstract on a new page following the claims, said claims now ending on page 29, the new Abstract being attached hereto on a separate page.